

HO-836, Humphries-Clarkin House
6154 Rockburn Hill Road, Elkridge vicinity
Howard County
1902
Private

CAPSULE SUMMARY

This two-story, frame Folk Victorian dwelling faces south from its lofty vantage point on a ridgeline between the Patapsco River and Rockburn Branch. The house rests on a stone foundation and has an asphalt shingle, side gabled roof. The three bay front façade is accented by a central cross gable. The house is arranged in a T-plan with a single pile front section and a two-story, single pile cross gabled rear wing. Wood shingles have been installed over German siding on every façade and all three of the gables feature cornice returns. A substantial single story addition has been made to the west façade of the house and several other cosmetic alterations have resulted in the loss of some of the original details.

The Humphries-Clarkin House is significant under criteria C in the area of architecture. It is a well-maintained example of a Folk Victorian farmhouse. More importantly, perhaps, especially in Howard County, the surrounding area still looks much like it did 100 years ago and the house is still owned by descendants of the original builder.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-836

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Humphries-Clarkin House
 other _____

2. Location

street and number 6154 Rockburn Hill Road _____ not for publication
 city, town Elkridge X vicinity
 county Howard

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Robert and Elaine Schulze
 street and number 6154 Rockburn Hill Road telephone _____
 city, town Elkridge state MD zip code 21075

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County Courthouse tax map and parcel: Map 32, P81
 city, town Ellicott City liber 1309 folio 437

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report
- Other _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
			Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense		_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic		_____ structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education		_____ objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry		
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape		
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture		
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion		
		<input type="checkbox"/> social		
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
			<u>0</u>	

7. Description

Inventory No. HO-836

Condition

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This two-story, frame Folk Victorian dwelling faces south from its lofty vantage point on a ridgeline between the Patapsco River and Rockburn Branch. The house rests on a stone foundation and has an asphalt shingle, side gabled roof. The three bay front façade is accented by a central cross gable. The house is arranged in a T-plan with a single pile front section and a two-story, single pile cross gabled rear wing. Wood shingles have been installed over German siding on every façade and all three of the gables feature cornice returns. A substantial single story addition has been made to the west façade of the house and several other cosmetic alterations have resulted in the loss of some of the original details.

The front (south) façade is three bays wide with three 2/2 double hung wood windows across the second story. A square vent is located in the central cross gable. The first story is concealed behind a full width enclosed front porch. Originally, the house had a central entry flanked on each side by a tall, floor-to-ceiling 2/2 double hung window. The original porch had turned posts and Victorian-style scroll brackets. The porch was gradually enclosed during the 20th century, and a 1970's renovation removed the central entry and replaced it with a window and removed the two large 2/2 windows and placed French doors in both openings leading onto the enclosed porch. The 2/2 windows were reused in an addition built on the west façade of the rear wing. Two interior brick chimneys pierce the roof of the front section of the house. One is located on the front left slope of the roof while the other is located at the ridge just to the right of center. The one on the front slope was constructed in the 1970's; the one at the ridge is a heavily rebuilt version of an original chimney.

The east side façade features vertically aligned 2/2 double hung wood windows, one on each story, in the front section of the house, and a two story addition on the east side of the rear wing. The addition is actually an enclosed porch on the first story with a bathroom added directly above on the second story. There is a reused 2/2 double hung wood window on the second story of this addition and a door on the first story.

The rear façade of the rear cross gabled wing has two vertically aligned 2/2 double hung wood windows, one on each story, and an exterior metal stovepipe chimney. The rear of the front section of the house is visible to the right of the wing and features one 2/2 window on the second story. The first story is obscured behind a large addition extending from the west façade of the rear wing.

The west side façade of the house features two vertically aligned 2/2 double hung wood windows, one on each story, in the front section of the house and a substantial, single story addition extending from the west side of the rear wing. The addition is two bays wide and one room deep and has a side gabled roof. The floor-to-ceiling 2/2 windows that were removed from the front façade of the house were reinstalled on the front (south) façade of this addition.

The overall interior arrangement of space is essentially original with some alterations to individual elements. The house originally had three rooms on each floor and each room measured 13 feet by 15 feet. The front entry led into a small foyer; a door on the left led into the parlor and a door on the right led into the dining room. The central stair rose straight up from the foyer. A door on the rear wall of the dining room led back into the kitchen, located in the rear wing. Originally, there was not direct access from the kitchen to the parlor; a doorway has since been opened between the two rooms. The second floor mirrored the first floor with the stair rising to another small foyer and one more step up in all three directions leading into three bedrooms. In order to eliminate the awkward step up required from the second floor landing, the stair was reworked. The front door was removed, as noted above, and an elevated landing installed. The doors leading into the parlor and dining room were removed and the doorways opened up. Three steps lead up from both the parlor and the dining room to the elevated landing. The steps then continue up to the second floor where the floor of the landing has been raised to the same level as the second floor bedrooms. Originally, there were fireplaces located on the interior walls of both the parlor and the dining room; both have been removed. A corner fireplace has been installed in the front left corner of the parlor. The house retains all of its original door and window moldings consisting of molded architraves with bulls eye corner blocks. The single story addition off the west façade of the original kitchen contains a bedroom and a bathroom. The enclosed porch on the east façade of the rear wing is now the kitchen and the original kitchen is

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-836

Name Humphries-Clarkin House
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

now the dinging room.

There are two frame outbuildings on the property. A single story frame outbuilding on a stone foundation located northeast of the house was probably constructed at the same time as the main dwelling and probably served some type of service function as storage space or a workshop. A single story frame garage on a cement block foundation located east of the original outbuilding was probably built sometime later in the 20th century, maybe as late as the 1970's renovation.

8. Significance

Inventory No. HO-836

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates 1902 **Architect/Builder** unknown

Construction dates 1902

Evaluation for:

National Register Maryland Register not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

The Humphries-Clarkin House is significant under criteria C in the area of architecture. It is a well-maintained example of a Folk Victorian farmhouse. More importantly, perhaps, especially in Howard County, the surrounding area still looks much like it did 100 years ago and the house is still owned by descendants of the original builder.

The Humphries-Clarkin House was built in 1902 by John Humphries for his daughter Elizabeth Clarkin shortly after her marriage. Like many average citizens of the late 19th century, little is known about John Humphries. The family believes that he arrived in the area shortly after the Civil War. He was supposedly in the Navy and just passing through the area when he met and fell in love with his future wife and decided to stay. He bought the property along Rockburn Branch including the house next door to the Humphries-Clarkin House (6150 Rockburn Hill Road) sometime around 1876. He built two additional houses on the property, the Humphries-Clarkin House in 1902 for his daughter and the house across Rockburn Hill Road (house number 6151) for his son. It is unknown what Humphries did for a living. His descendants believe that he was a magistrate down in Elkridge and may have farmed some of his land. The daughter of Elizabeth Clarkin, Elizabeth Anders, was the mother of the current owner, Mrs. Elaine Schulze. When Mrs. Schulze and her husband returned to the property in the mid-1970's after traveling extensively for Mr. Schulzes military career, the house had been vacant for six years and was not in good condition.

The Schulzes made some changes and repairs and the house today is in excellent condition and is a good example of a form and style that was once very common place across Howard County. Extensive development, especially in the eastern part of the county, has made the vernacular Folk Victorian farmhouse an endangered species in the last 20 years. It is noteworthy, however, that Rockburn Hill Road, as a whole, has not experienced the development that has overrun much of the rest of the county and looks much like it did 100 years ago. The construction of I-95 immediately to the south is the only major alteration to the surrounding area in the last 30 years. Of the 11 houses on the road today, only two were built in the last 20 years and the other nine all date to the late 19th or early 20th century. This single road is one of the last places in eastern Howard County outside of Patapsco State Park that retains both a majority of its historic buildings and the integrity of its wooded and hilly surroundings.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. HO-836

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1.5

Acreage of historical setting _____

Quadrangle name

Relay

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Tax map 32, Parcel 81.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kristin H. Hill, Historic Sites Surveyor

organization Howard County Department of Planning and Zoning

date 1/15/04

street and number 3430 Court House Drive

telephone 410-313-4335

city or town Ellicott City

state MD zip code 21043

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032
410-514-7600

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-836

Name Humphries-Clarkin House

Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

Interview with Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schulze, January 8, 2004.



HO-836, Humphries-Clarkin House
6154 Rockburn Hill Road, Elkridge
Howard County Maryland

Kristin Hill 1/04

34 21+01 NNNNN 582

Negative at MOSHPO

SW elevation

1/11



MAA

HO-836, Humphreys Clarkin House
6154 Rockburn Hill Road, Elkridge
Howard County, Maryland

Kristin Hill, 1/04

32 21+00 NNNNN 625

Negative at MDSHPO

SW elevation

2/11



H0-836, Humphries-Clarkin House
6154 Rockburn Hill Road, Elkridge
Howard County, Maryland

Kristin Hill, 1104

Negative at MDSH00 32 21+01 NNNNN 582

S elevation of 1970's addition showing reused 2/2
windows

3/11



HO-836, Humphries-Clarkin House
6154 Rockburn Hill Road, Elkridge
Howard County, Maryland
Kinstin Hill, 1/64
Negative at MDSHPO

33 21+01 NNNNN 582

S elevation

4/11



HO-836, Humphries-Clarkin House
6154 Rockburn Hill Road, Elkridge
Howard County, Maryland
Kinstle Hill, 1/04

Negative at MDSDPO

31 21+00 NNNNN 582

SE elevation

5/11



HO-836, Humphries-Clarkin House

6154 Rockburn Hill Road, Elkridge

Howard County, Maryland

Kristin Hill 1/04

36 21+01 NNNNN 625

Negative at MDSHPD

East elevation

6/11



HO-836, Humphries-Clarkin House
6154 Rockburn Hill Road, Elkridge
Howard County, Maryland

Kristin Hill 1/04

Negative at MDSHPD

35 21+01 NNNNN 625

NE elevation

7/11



HO-836, Humphries - Clarkin House
6154 Rockburn Hill Road, Elkridge
Howard County, Maryland
Kistin Hill, 1104

Negative at MDSHPD 34 21+00 NNNNN 625

north (rear) elevation

8/11



HO-836, Humphres-Clarkin House

6154 Rockburn Hill Road, Elkridge
Howard County, Maryland

Rustin Hill 1/04

31 21+01 NNNNN 625

Negative at MDSHPO

East elevation of house and south elevation
of outbuilding

9/11



HO-836, Humphries-Clarkin House
6154 Rockburn Hill Road, Elkridge
Howard County, Maryland

Kristin Hill 1/04

Negative at MDSHPO 33 21+01 NNNNN 625

frame outbuilding, east elevation

10/11



Ho-836, Humphres-Clarkin House

6154 Rockburn Hill Road, Elkridge
Howard County, Maryland

Kristin Hill 1/04

35 21-01 NNNNN 582

Negative at MDSHPO

original interior trim

11/11